

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 094991
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EB-08 COME-00 SSM-03 DOE-15 SOE-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01
INT-05 OES-07 /105 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:D E ZWEIFEL:MM
APPROVED BY NEA/EGY:D O NEWBERRY
L/NEA:D SMALL
NEA/IAI:G KULICK

-----128368 132258Z /61

R 131733Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094991

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EG, IS, US

SUBJECT: CONOCO REQUEST FOR OPINION ON POTENTIAL NEW CON-
CESSION AREA

REF: CAIRO 9430

1. CONSISTENT WITH USG POSITION ON STATUS OF SINAI (AS
OCCUPIED EGYPTIAN TERRITORY), BASIC QUESTION IS NOT ONE OF
SOVEREIGNTY BUT RATHER CONTROL. AS SOVEREIGN, GOE HAS
AUTHORITY TO GRANT PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS IN THE SINAI, AL-
THOUGH THESE WOULD BE OF LIMITED EFFECT PENDING EGYPTIAN
RESUMPTION OF CONTROL. SQUYRES APPEARS TO BE FULLY AWARE
OF LIMITATIONS WHICH WOULD APPLY.

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2. FROM USG POINT OF VIEW, WE REALIZE THAT GOE DECISION
TO GRANT CONCESSION TO CONOCO WOULD PRESENT US WITH PRO-
BLEMS SIMILAR TO THOSE EXTANT IN GULF OF SUEZ--I.E. CON-
FLICTING CONCESSIONS GRANTED TO DIFFERENT AMERICAN FIRMS
RESPECTIVELY BY GOI AND GOE. (OUR ASSUMPTION IS THAT
AREA UNDER CONSIDERATION AT LEAST PARTIALLY WOULD OVERLAP

AREA IN WHICH WHOLLY-OWNED MONCRIEF SUBSIDIARY, WESTERN
DESERT, HOLDS LICENSE GRANTED BY GOI.) WE WOULD, THERE-
FORE, NOT WANT TO ENCOURAGE POTENTIAL CONFLICT, BUT BY
SAME TOKEN WOULD NOT INTERPOSE USG OBJECTIONS TO CONOCO'S
PROPOSAL TO GOE ON THIS MATTER. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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From: STATE
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